



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

Bureau of Air Pollution Control

Web Posting Date: 11/18/11

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 445B and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445B, the Division of Environmental Protection is issuing the following notice.

The Administrator has received an application for a Phase-2 Nevada Mercury Operating Permit to Construct from the following applicant:

*Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 29*

*Elko, NV 89803*

The Administrator has prepared tentative determinations regarding the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct (MOPTC) AP1041-2221 that, in brief, affect the following sources: one (1) retort, two (2) resin regeneration tanks, two (1) heat recovery tanks, two (2) sets of pregnant and barren tanks, and electrowinning cells.

The draft MOPTC proposes mercury emissions performance standards and mercury emissions control technologies determined to be NvMACT pursuant to NAC 445B.3683.2(b). Determination of initial proposed NvMACT mercury emissions performance for the electrowinning cells and the set of pregnant and barren tanks, is  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  gr/dscf mercury. Final proposed NvMACT mercury emission limits shall be determined after an emissions control performance demonstration period. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions control technology for the set of pregnant and barren tanks and the electrowinning cells in a 21.0 ton carbon bed.

Determination of the final NvMACT mercury emissions performance limit for the retort system is  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  gr/dscf mercury for each retort. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions control technology for the retort system is: retort separator, chilled contact condenser for each retort, and a secondary condenser, wet gas coalescer, heater, and carbon filter shared by all the retorts.

Determination of the final NvMACT mercury emissions performance limit for the resin regeneration tanks and the heat recovery tanks is  $5.0 \times 10^{-5}$  gr/dscf mercury for the entire system. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emission control technology for the system is: a spray tower scrubber, and a 5.0 ton carbon bed.

The proposed MOPTC activities include monitoring, recordkeeping, annual stack testing for mercury emissions, annual emissions reporting, annual mercury co-product reporting, limits of operation, and work practice standards which minimize emissions of mercury to the

atmosphere. Other permit contents include a mercury emission limit for each system.

On the basis of the preliminary review and the requirements of the NRS and the NAC, the Administrator is hereby announcing his intent to issue the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct based on review of the information, as proposed. A copy of the draft operating permit is available for public inspection at:

ELKO COUNTY LIBRARY  
720 COURT STREET  
ELKO, NV 89801

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding this proposed action or to request a hearing pursuant to NRS 445B Air Pollution and NAC 445B Air Controls should submit their comments or request in writing either in person or by mail or fax within thirty (30) days to:

Nikita Lingenfelter  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Air Pollution Control  
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249  
(775) 687-9388  
(775) 687-6396 FAX

The application, draft permit, any comments received, and other relevant information may be copied at the above address or copies may be obtained by requesting in writing at the above address. Copies of the Director's Review and the draft Mercury Operating Permit to Construct are available for review on the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection-Bureau of Air Pollution Control website at: <http://ndep.nv.gov/bapc/hg/pub.html>. Written comments or objections, will be received at the Division of Environmental Protection, above address, until **December 22, 2011** and will be retained and considered prior to final action on the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know may be interested in this matter.